GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4311
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2010
ARTIFICIAL RAINFALL
Rane Dr. Nilesh Narayan

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether artificial rainfall is being contemplated in several parts of the country particularly in Mumbai and other parts of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has received proposals from various parts of the country particularly from Maharashtra in this regard; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTRY OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

(a)−(b) A number of cloud seeding programmes have been carried out by commercial firms working under contract with a variety of sponsors both from the Government covering large areas as well as by Private Trusts at a local scale. The States of Karnataka, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh have undertaken cloud seeding operations till last year by hiring private firms and these operations were funded by the respective State Governments.

Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM) Pune, is conducting a National multi-year program viz. "Cloud Aerosol Interaction and Precipitation Enhancement Experiment (CAIPEEX)" during 2008-2012. It is proposed to carry out cloud seeding experiment for producing artificial rainfall during July-August 2010 in the research mode over the rain-shadow regions of peninsular India, consisting the parts of the States of Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. However, there are no plans under this programme for conducting this over Mumbai area.

(c) No Madam.

(d) Does not arise.